Huns, if so, what is the action plan to disinvest this Unit;

(b) whether the employees of Pawan Hans are ready to accept the disinvestment plan of their company; if so the details of their conditions; and

(c) if not, what are their objections?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) A majority of the employees of Pawan Hans are opposed to the disinvestment in the Company. Their main objections are as under:—

(i) The disinvestment is aimed at raising budgetary receipts to meet the fiscal deficit of the Government and is unlikely to reduce the financial dependence of the Company;

(ii) privatisation shall result in reduced in employment;

(iii) profits may be utilised for individual gains.

Aerodrome Directorate of Inspection

631. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Aerodrome Directorate of Inspection is a Flight safety requirement to monitor standards;

(b) though this Directorate was sanctioned in 1993, but it was not formed;

(c) the personnel posted against the vacancies of this Directorate are being misused elsewhere; and

(d) who is responsible for this lapse and what action Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d) Nine posts of technical officers were sanctioned in August 1998 for Aerodromes Standards Directorate (ASD) meant for licensing the aerodromes. Since recruitment rules were required to be framed for these posts in consultation with the Department of Personnel & Training, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Ministry of Law, these could not be filled up. The recruitment rules have since been notified and UPSC has recommended names of suitable candidates of the posts of Assistant Director and Deputy Director for the ASD. Action has already been initiated for appointing them.

Regular Air Service in the N.E. States

632. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to give IA a one time grant of Rs. 250 crores and other concessions to operate a regular air service in the N.E. States; and

(b) if so, what is the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. Fare fixed by Air

India for Haj Pilgrims

633. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the fare fixed by Air India for Haj Pilgrims for Haj, 1998;

(b) what was the fare fixed by Air India for Haj in 1995, 1996 and 1997?

(c) what are the reasons for Air India to increase the fare by more than 60% during Haj 1997; and

(d) whether fares of other sectors have also gone up by 60% if not, by what percentage?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) The fare for Haj 1998 has not been fixed so far.

(b) Haj fare fixed per pilgrim was as under:

Haj, 1995 — Rs. 17,500/-

Haj, 1996 — Rs. 19,640/-

Haj, 1997 — Rs. 25,829/- (provisional)

However fare paid/payable every year by each pilgrim was/is Rs. 12,000/- and the balance is paid as a subsidy by the Government.

(c) The increase in the fare for 1997 is because Haj operation was undertaken by Air India with its own aircraft and the company's overhead expenses arc higher than those of the charter parties, whose aircraft were taken on lease in the previous years for majority of Haj operations.

(d) The normal fare increase was of on an average of 32% in 1997.

Proposal to develop Delhi and Mumbai as international hubs

634. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to develop Delhi and Mumbai as international hubs; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The recently finalised airport infrastructure policy envisages development of Delhi & Mumbai "among other airports" as international hubs. However, planning for this purpose is in a preliminary stage.

Corruption at Nagpur airport

635. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAND RA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of large scale corruption and misappropriation, illegal involvement with contractors, caterers, etc. have been brought to the notice of Government with respect to the Nagpur Airport;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government on this matter;

(c) whether it is a fact that such complaints even from public representatives arc not given proper attention; and

(d) what steps will be taken to set right the affairs of the Nagpur Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

देश में नये हवाई अड्डों का निर्माण

636. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:**
प्रो. राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा:

क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान सरकार देश में कुछ और हवाई-अड्डे बनाने पर विचार कर रही है यदि हां तो तत्संबंधी राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इस प्रयोजन के लिए कितनी धनराशि आबंटित की गई है; और

(ग) निर्माण-कार्य कब तक शुरु हो जाने की सम्भावना है?

नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री सी. एम. इब्राहीम):

(क) जी हां।

(ख) और

(ग) भारतीय विमानपतन प्राधिकरण की कर्नाटक में गुलबर्ग और हसन, राजस्थान में अजमेर, केरल में कन्नूमर और अरुणाचल प्रदेश में ईटानगर में नये हवाई-अड्डों के निर्माण की योजनाएं हैं। इन हवाई अड्डों के निर्माण के लिए भारतीय विमानपतन प्राधिकरण को अधिक निधियां आवंटित किए जाने का योजना आयोग से अनुरोध किया गया है।